The Department of Music

of

The University of Alberta

presents

CLAUDE KENNESON, cellist

and

MICHAEL MASSEY, pianist

with

Guest Cellists

SHAUNA ROLSTON and AMANDA FORSYTH

in

RECITAL

Sunday, October 22, 1978 at 8:00 p.m.
Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building

PROGRAM

Requiem, Op. 66. . . . . David Popper (1846-1913)
For Three Cellos and Orchestra

Suite No. I for Solo Cello, Op. 72 . . . . . Benjamin Britten (1913-1977)
Canto primo
Fuga
Lamento
Canto secondo
Serenata
Marcia
Canto terzo
Bordone
Moto perpetuo e Canto quarto

INTERMISSION

Sonata, Op. 102, No. I . . . . . Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Andante: Allegro vivace
Adagio--tempo d'Andante: Allegro vivace

DAVID POPPER (1846-1913) was born in Prague and studied the cello with Julius Golterman at the Prague Conservatory. At the invitation of Hans von Bülow he became the solo cellist of the Imperial Opera in Vienna and later of the Vienna Philharmonic. He frequently appeared in chamber music concerts with Brahms. He married the pianist, Sophie Menter, and together they toured Europe with phenomenal success. In November of 1891 during one of his many appearances in London, he performed as soloist at an orchestral concert playing his Suite, Op. 50 ("Im Walde") and was then joined by two distinguished colleagues, the cellists Jules Delsart and Edward Howell, for a performance of his new Requiem, Op. 66 for three solo cellos and orchestra. In 1896 he settled in Budapest as Professor of Cello at the Franz Listz Academy and there formed the Budapest Quartet (Hubay-Herzfeld-Waldbauer-Popper). In 1905 he celebrated the occasion of his 40th year on the concert stage with a Jubilee Concert at the Academy. He died in Budapest in 1913 acclaimed as one of the foremost cellists of the day. He is remembered now as a gifted composer of exquisite genre pieces for the cello.

BENJAMIN BRITTEN (1913-1977) once commented, "I write music for people. I consider the instruments which they play and their most expressive and suitable individual sounds...A musical experience requires at least three people-- a composer, a performer, and a listener...If these three do not cooperate there is no musical experience." The Suite, Op. 72 was composed for Mstislav Rostropovich as were Britten's later two works in this form. Rostropovich gave the first performance of this work on June 27, 1965 at the Aldeburgh Festival. The many movements of the Suite, Op. 72 are framed and interlocked with four Canti ("songs") and each Canto announces one of the work's three parts. The composition is played without pause.

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827) composed the last two Sonatas, Op. 102 (for cello and piano) during the summer of 1815 for the German cellist and composer, Joseph Linke. Linke was an old friend, a fellow performer at countless concerts, an attendant at Beethoven's deathbed and a mourner at his funeral. These two works are the most soul-searching and, at the same time, the shortest of Beethoven's five Sonatas for cello and piano. Like his last piano Sonatas, these works are written in free style as the composer himself called it. The Sonata, Op. 102, No. 1 is representative of Beethoven's late transcendental period of composition.

CLAUDE KENNESON, cellist, has long enjoyed an international career appearing in North America, Great Britain and Europe as a chamber music artist, recitalist and conductor. His artistic life in Canada has been linked to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet of which he was the Musical Director and to the two ensembles which he co-founded, the Corydon String Trio and the University of Alberta String Quartet. He is Professor of Music at the University of Alberta where he has been a staff member since 1965.

MICHAEL MASSEY, pianist, is a musician of unusual gifts. He was born in England and came to Canada at an early age. He holds the degree of Bachelor of Music from the University of Alberta (1967) and was awarded the Premier Prix de Virtuosité at the Geneva Conservatory. He has been a member of the cello section of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Massey is the Conductor of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra.

AMANDA FORSYTH and SHAUNA ROLSTON are outstanding pupils of Claude Kenneson. Miss Rolston (age 11) is a frequent performer on CBC Television and last summer was a National Winner in the Canada Music Competition. She is the daughter of Professor and Mrs. Thomas Rolston. Miss Forsyth (age 12) has been widely recognized as a gifted young cellist and is the youngest member of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm Forsyth.